



ANGUS S. KING, JR.  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
MAINE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES  
16 EDISON DRIVE  
AUGUSTA, MAINE  
04330

MICHAEL F. KELLY  
COMMISSIONER

JAY BRADSHAW  
DIRECTOR

**Investigations Committee Meeting  
Wednesday, October 6, 1999  
Maine EMS Conference Room, Augusta**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Present:** R. Doughty; S. Hayes; C. Pillsbury

**Staff:** D. White; B. Montejo

**1. CALL TO ORDER** - The meeting was called to order at 1:20 p.m.

**A. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda** - Investigations - David Cobb

**B. Accept Minutes of August 4, 1999, meeting** - To be provided for acceptance at the November 1999 meeting.

**2. INVESTIGATIONS**

**A. Peter Coffey**

The committee reviewed the additional information requested of China Rescue and Northeast Mobile Health regarding Peter Coffey.

The Committee discussed Mr. Coffey's theft (and subsequent conviction) of equipment from the former County Ambulance Service of Topsham. The Committee also reviewed information that Mr. Coffey's conduct in regards to the County Ambulance Service theft was not an isolated incident, but rather represented a pattern of behavior as evidenced by Mr. Coffey's actions with previous EMS employers.

***MOTION: That licensee Peter Coffey was convicted of Theft by Unauthorized Taking , Class E, on June 18, 1998; that the aforementioned conviction was based upon a theft committed by Coffey against a Maine licensed EMS service with which he was employed; that Coffey attempted to sell the stolen equipment to another Maine licensed EMS service of which he was a member; that information obtained by Maine EMS as part of its investigation and informal conference with Mr. Coffey indicate that Mr. Coffey displayed a similar pattern of behavior while an employee of Delta Ambulance Service - Farmington; that Mr. Coffey's statements of remorse are unconvincing; and, that Mr. Coffey lacks the requisite character to continue as a***



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***member of Maine's EMS system. Therefore, the Committee finds that licensee Peter Coffey violated sections***

***12(A)(3), 12(A)(4), 12(A)(7), and 12(A)(18) of the Maine EMS Rules (dated September 1, 1996) and that Mr. Coffey's current application, and all future applications, for EMS licensure be denied (Hayes; Doughty - motion carries).***

### **C. Three Rivers Ambulance Service**

The Committee had tabled this matter during the August 1999 meeting in order that Maine EMS could obtain additional information from the paramedic who provided ALS backup during the call in question. Staff reported that the Paramedic indicated that the patient involved in the call in question was compliant and "easy going" and that there was no problem during transport. The Paramedic did not observe intoxication on the part of the Three Rivers crew members. He indicated that the Three Rivers crew members "did things by the book".

***Motion: That, based upon the written response of Three Rivers Ambulance Service and information obtained by Maine EMS, the Committee finds that a violation of the Maine EMS Rules does not exist and that the case be dismissed (Hayes; Pillsbury - motion carries).***

### **C. Eastport Ambulance Service**

D. White reported that the Eastport Ambulance Service no longer holds a service license (the company was sold to McGovern Ambulance Service of Calais, Maine). Therefore, consistent with past practice, he recommended that case #98-28, Eastport Ambulance Service, be filed with no further action taken in this case, until such time as Eastport Ambulance Service, or its former owner, William George, applies for service licensure.

***Motion: That case #98-28, Eastport Ambulance Service, be filed with no further action taken in this case until such time as Eastport Ambulance Service, or its former owner, William George, applies for service licensure (Doughty; Pillsbury - motion carries).***

### **D. Christopher Reed**

Staff reported that licensee Christopher Reed, whom the committee acted upon at its August, 1999 meeting, case 99-09, had recently been involved in a situation whereby he barricaded himself at his residence with a weapon; forcing police intervention.

***Motion: To reconsider the Committee's August 4, 1999, motion regarding Christopher Reed, case # 99-09; to maintain case # 99-09 as an open investigation; to initiate another investigation concerning the licensee's conduct surrounding an August 6, 1999 incident whereat the licensee allegedly barricaded himself at his residence with a weapon; and, to request that Mr. Reed voluntarily surrender his Maine EMS license (Hayes; Doughty - motion carries).***

#### **E. Mary Kate Moody**

The Committee reviewed additional information concerning licensee Mary Kate Moody's practice without an EMS license. Staff indicated that Moody was listed as a crew member on 12 EMS calls from September, 1997 to May, 1998.

***Motion: That licensee Mary Kate Moody practiced EMS patient care without a valid license from January 25, 1997 to May 19, 1998; that said practice without a valid license is a violation of sections 12(A)(2), 12(A)(3), 12(A)(4), 12(A)(17) and 12(A)(18) of the Maine EMS Rules (dated September 1, 1996); and that upon the October 31, 1999, expiration of her Maine EMS license #12723, Moody shall be ineligible to license for a period of 30 days (Hayes;Doughty - motion carries).***

#### **F. William George**

Staff reported that a fair hearing concerning case 97-09, William George has been set for the December, 1999, Board meeting.

#### **G. John Gallagher**

D. White reported that licensee John Gallagher had complied with the service and regional requirements and was now relicensed. Staff will close this investigation.

#### **H. Carmel Ambulance Service**

D. White stated that he continues to work with regional and local officials in resolving the Carmel Ambulance Service Investigation.

#### **I. Other - David Cobb**

D. White reported that investigations had been initiated against licensee David Cobb for practice without a license, and against the Augusta Fire Department for utilizing Mr. Cobb while he was not licensed.

White requested guidance as to whether Mr. Cobb should be licensed by Maine EMS if he presents the required education and skills lab.

***Motion: That Maine EMS not issue a license renewal to David Cobb until such time as the pending case against him is resolved (Doughty; Pillsbury - motion carries).***

S. Hayes then suggested that Mr. Cobb be offered an expeditious resolution of the case through consent agreement by paying a fine or by surrender of license.

***Motion: That staff offer David Cobb a consent agreement to resolve the complaint against him for practice without a license; that Mr. Cobb may resolve the investigation against him for practice without a license by paying a fine in the amount of \$1200.00 or by agreeing to the suspension of his license for a period of six months (Hayes; Doughty - motion carries).***

### **3. APPLICATIONS**

#### **A. Thomas Varick**

D. White presented a letter from Thomas Varick who requested an informal review of Mr. Varick's denial of licensure based upon his history of felony convictions in the state of Texas. The committee was presented with additional Texas court records supplied by Mr. Varick.

The Committee conducted an informal review of the information. Committee members reiterated concern that the type of convictions of which Mr. Varick was convicted constitute multiple serious infractions in which individuals were put at risk.

***MOTION: That the Committee, following an informal review, upholds it August 4, 1999 decision to deny Thomas Varick's eligibility for licensure (Hayes; Doughty - motion carries).***

#### **B. DWIGHT COLLINS - Update**

D. White reported that Mr. Collins has entered in a consent agreement and has been issued an EMT-Basic license.

### **4. Other**

#### **A. Update on current investigations - no report**

### **5. NEXT MEETING**

**A. Set Agenda** - To be set prior to meeting

**B. Set Date and Time** - The next meeting of the Committee will be on November 3, 1999, following the Maine EMS Board meeting.

**6. ADJOURNMENT** - The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bill Montejo  
Drexell White